

bears in itself a reward that cannot be reckoned in dollars and cents, or by a desire to earn a livelihood with the expenditure of very little physical exertion. The *former* are generally well prepared: they shrink from no labor necessary to fit themselves for their calling, *because* they love it. The examiner finds his duty a pleasant one when they are before him, and their record afterwards is replete with successful labor among enthusiastic pupils. The *latter* endeavor to shirk examinations. They have innumerable reasons why 'permits' for an indefinite length of time should be granted them,—are satisfied in their own minds that examinations are humbugs, and think it preposterous that a teacher, whose business it is to ask questions, should be subjected himself to a series of interrogatories. Some of this class occasionally pass, but the examiner does not sign their certificates with any pleasure. While the laborer should receive a proper pecuniary compensation for his labor, and an effort is being honestly made to secure more remunerative salaries for energetic teachers, it is a solemn duty resting on every school officer to eliminate from the profession, those drones who cling to it because no other employment is open to them, and yet begrudge the time and labor required for the thorough performance of their duties.

Examinations however, do not furnish every indication as to the fitness or unfitness of a teacher. He must be tried in the school room, in order to show whether he is born to the profession, or only an intruder in its ranks. His power of governing, his administration and executive abilities, his faculty of imparting instruction, these can only be judged of in the school. Hence the necessity for visits of inspection by the President. This duty cannot be performed in the large Counties, more than once a year, and, as the schools are fullest during the most inclement months of the year, it necessitates at times, fearful exposure to rain, wind, and snow. My inspections were made during the months of January, February, March and April. The Commissioner of each district accompanied me in the visits to his own schools. A few classes were always examined in such manner as to furnish a good idea of the nature of the instruction imparted, the discipline of the school was investigated, and the manner of keeping the Register inspected. These visits were always closed with short addresses to the pupils on the nature and importance of their work, and such other subjects as may have been suggested during our visit. There can be no doubt as to the value of frequent visits to the schools by the school officers. Indeed frequent visits of parents and others, where these do not interfere with the regular school exercises are very beneficial; while they enable the visitors to understand how laborious are the teacher's duties, they may draw forth that sympathy in his work which will make his heart light under heavy pressure.